

Rave Reviews

Vocabulary

All the words in this lesson may be associated with the theater and theatrical performances.

anticlimax (AN tee KLY MAKs) N. an event that has less importance than the events leading up to it (*The last scene was an anticlimax after the sustained tension of the play.*)

aplomb (uh PLAHM) N. self-assurance; poise (*No one in the audience guessed the actress had forgotten her lines because she performed with such aplomb.*)

cancellation (KAN suh LAY shuhn) N. the act of calling something off (*Sandra was disappointed at the cancellation of the ballet.*)

dialogue (DY uh LAWG) N. conversation between two or more people (*The dialogue in the play sounded like everyday conversation.*)

endow (en DOW) V. to provide with something (*Mrs. Castillo planned to endow a local theater with a large sum of money from her inheritance.*)

enrapture (en RAP chur) V. to enchant (*The spellbinding songs and dances of the musical seemed to enrapture the audience.*)

exotic (ig ZAHT ik) ADJ. strikingly unusual (*The unearthly stage set gave the production its exotic flavor.*)

finale (fuh NAL ee) N. the end; the conclusion (*The stage curtains closed as the audience thunderously applauded the opera's magnificent finale.*)

gala (GAY luh) ADJ. festive (*The Oscars are presented at a gala ceremony.*)

lavish (LAV ish) ADJ. extremely generous; extravagant (*The cost of the lavish costumes was partly responsible for the show's financial difficulties.*)

pantomime (PAN tuh MYM) N. the art of telling a story solely through body movements and facial expressions (*The children enjoyed the pantomime in the park.*)

parody (PAR uh dee) N. imitation of an artistic work done for humor or to ridicule the work (*Tom and Kate did a hilarious parody of Romeo and Juliet for their school's talent show.*)

patronize (PAY truh NYZ) V. to help to support, often financially (*The Andersons and the Chungs were known to patronize several artists in the local theater.*)

portray (por TRAY) V. to act the part of; to create a character (*Danielle had always wanted to portray Joan of Arc on stage.*)

psychological (SY kuh LAHJ i kuh) ADJ. relating to or directed toward the mind (*It is a very psychological play; it grips the viewer even though there is little action.*)

radical (RAD i kuh) ADJ. favoring extreme changes in current views or conditions (*Actors refused to work with the director because of his radical ideas about traditional plays.*)

revue (ri VYOO) N. a theatrical show made up of songs, dances, and skits (*Earl had to learn three songs and five dances for the revue.*)

soliloquy (suh LIL uh kwee) N. a speech in which a single actor thinks out loud (*A playwright often uses a soliloquy to indicate to the audience what a character is thinking.*)

synopsis (si NAHP sis) N. a summary or overview (*Al did not have time to read the play, so Mary gave him a brief synopsis.*)

unique (yoo NEEK) ADJ. one of a kind; unusual (*Robert knew that he had been offered a unique opportunity; roles like this are rare.*)